

**PHTHALAMIDE LANTHANIDE COMPLEXES FOR USE  
AS FLUORESCENT MARKERS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention provides luminescent lanthanide metal chelates comprising a metal ion of the lanthanide series and a complexing agent comprising at least one phthalamidyl moiety. Also provided are probes incorporating the phthalamidyl ligands of the invention and methods utilizing the ligands of the invention and probes comprising the ligands of the invention.

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